

ORGANISATION OF NURSING IN VICTORIA.

THE ALFRED HOSPITAL NURSES' LEAGUE.

Miss Gretta Lyons, the new President of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, is going ahead and proving herself a sympathetic and forceful leader. Miss Lyons, who has visited England on several occasions, and also keeps in touch with American progressive plans, believes in our Nurses' Leagues, as the nucleus of National organisation. Recently Miss L. Mann, Matron of the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, extended a cordial invitation to all former trainees of the institution to attend a meeting at the hospital. The gathering was arranged by Miss Gretta Lyons for the purpose of forming an Alfred Hospital Nurses' League.

In character the League will be much the same as the associations formed in England and in the United States and at various colleges, with the object of helping collegians to keep in touch with each other after their student days.

The Alfred Hospital was the first organised training school for nurses established in Victoria. Many of the Australian Sisters decorated for distinguished service in the present war owe their skill to the training they received at the Alfred Hospital. Those who have gained distinction include Mrs. McHardie White, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Salonica; Matron Davis, Matron-in-Chief, India; Sister Ross King, M.M.; Miss C. Cornwall, R.R.C.; and Miss Violet Mills, R.R.C.

Among those interested in forming this new league is a nurse who served as a probationer at the Alfred Hospital in 1888.

"At that time" explains this nurse, "the Alfred was the only registered training school for nurses. Two classes of trainees were accepted. Those who paid £12 12s. entrance fee and boarded out, and others who paid an entrance fee of £1 1s., lived at the Hospital and assisted with the domestic work in the wards.

"A trainee could obtain her certificate after one year's probation, providing she passed the two

necessary examinations. I was at the Melbourne Hospital in 1887. Then no certificates were issued at that institution, but a trainee, if approved by the Matron and Secretary, could receive a reference after three years' service."

Miss Gretta Lyons, who convened the meeting, trained at the Alfred Hospital about 26 years ago. We hear the League is going to be a big success.

VICTORIAN NURSES' BILL.

The Victorian Nurses' Registration Bill has been read a second time, so no doubt it will soon be in force. There was, of course, opposition.

Most of the speakers appeared to object to a professional Board of Control. Mr. McLeod said he was not prepared to grant so much power as the Bill proposed to a board the majority of which would consist of medical men and nurses.

Mr. Snowball hoped the Ministry would protect the public from the danger of giving the medical profession control.

Mr. Slater objected to the nurses being represented on the board by the Matrons, who, he said were often very much out of sympathy with the trainees under their charge. He regretted that provisions had not been made in the Bill for dealing with the working conditions of nurses generally.

Most of the American Registration Acts provide for control independent of the training schools, although the

majority of Examining Boards are composed entirely of nurses.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE TRANSFERS AND NURSES.

Miss Allena M. Morison is appointed to Durham C.N.A. as County Superintendent; Miss Alice E. Holmes to Dewsbury as Senior Nurse; Miss Harriett E. Browne to Dartford; Miss Beatrice M. T. Clarke to Worthing; Miss Maud M. Deegan to Liverpool (Lady Williamson); Miss Olive Gordon to Blackburn; Miss Elizabeth Morris to Blackburn; Miss Elizabeth C. Murray to Altofts; Miss Everdina J. B. Reuser to Hammersmith; Miss Ellen E. Thomas to Blackburn.



MISS GRETTA LYONS,
President, Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)